

wherein

said fabric is woven,

said flat single filaments have each an average flat ratio of 1.5 to 5.0,

said multifilament yarn has an average flat ratio of 1.2 to 7.0, and

the warp of said woven fabric has a fabric surface occupancy ratio of 60 to

90% and its weft has a fabric surface occupancy ratio of 90 to 120%.

REMARKS

The Claims in the application are 1-18 and Claim 20 added herein.

Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

A certified copy of priority Japanese application no. 348210/1999 is enclosed. It is respectfully requested that receipt thereof be acknowledged by the Patent and Trademark Office upon the next official communication.

Claim 19, which has not been rejected over any art, has been amended into independent form as Claim 20 presented herein. Accordingly, Claim 19, at the very least, should be in condition for allowance. However, it is respectfully submitted that all claims pending herein are patentable over the applied art for the following reasons.

Claims 1-18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as obvious over U.S. Pat. No. 6,387,523 to Bunyan et al. in view of U.S. Pat. No. 3,470,928 to Schwartz in paragraph 2 of the Office Action. Bunyan et al., issued May 14, 2002 and were filed

June 18, 2001, after the priority date of December 16, 2000 of the above-identified U.S. application.

Pursuant to M.P.E.P. §706.02(b)(e), Applicants hereby perfect the claim of priority to overcome Bunyan et al. as a reference. More particularly, a certified copy of of the priority document is enclosed herewith as noted above, with a verified English translation thereof also being enclosed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.55(a)(4), thus establishing that the priority document constitutes an enabling description of the claimed invention as of its priority date.

Since Bunyan et al. have been eliminated as a reference, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103 has been eliminated. It is noted that Bunyan et al. are listed as a continuation of U.S. Pat. No. 6,248,393 filed February 16, 1999. U.S. Pat. No. 6,248,393 has been neither cited nor applied by the Examiner. Accordingly, should the Examiner ultimately decide to cite and apply U.S. Pat. No. 6,248,393, then it is respectfully submitted that any such rejection, at the very least, must be made in a non-final Office Action.

Accordingly, in view of the foregoing amendment and accompanying remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions, then it is respectfully requested that the undersigned attorney be contacted at the earliest convenience to discuss the present application.

Early favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George M. Kaplan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "George" and middle initial "M." being more legible than the last name "Kaplan".

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